



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

November 19, 2015

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Dr. Dennis Beck
Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc.
2224 East Tall Oaks
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72703

**RE: Notice of State Board of Education Hearing
Arkansas Connections Academy**

Dear Dr. Beck:

On November 17, 2015, the Charter Authorizing Panel met and approved the open-enrollment charter application for Arkansas Connections Academy. **Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-702(b)(2)(A) allows charter applicants and affected school districts to request that the State Board of Education review a final decision of the Charter Authorizing Panel.** A request must state the specific reasons that the Board should review the decision.

Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-703(a) requires the State Board of Education to consider requests for review of Charter Authorizing Panel decisions at its next meeting after the decisions are made. **Therefore, a review request must be submitted, via email, no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 25, 2015, in order for the request to be included in the State Board of Education agenda materials for the meeting on Thursday, December 10, 2015.** Email the request to ade.charterschools@arkansas.gov. Be advised that the decision of whether to review a Charter Authorizing Panel decision is discretionary. See Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-702(b)(3). Regardless of whether a review of the Panel's decision is requested, the application will be an action item for the State Board of Education on December 10th, and, at that time, the Board will determine whether or not to review the Panel's decision. If the Board decides to review the Panel's decision, the review will take place at a later meeting.

Let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached by phone at (501) 682-5665 or by email at alexandra.boyd@arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Boyd
Charter Schools, Program Coordinator

Four Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR
72201-1019
(501) 682-4475
ArkansasEd.gov